

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Homeownership provides the basis upon which neighborhood stabilization, childhood and family security, and personal dreams are built; and,

*Whereas*, Economic development and social and civic leaders statewide continue to stress the importance and value of homeownership in our communities and our society; and,

*Whereas*, Studies have indicated that children in owned homes score higher in the areas of math and reading, have lower school dropout rates, attain a higher level of education, lower teen pregnancy rates, have an increased level of emotional support, have fewer behavioral problems, and are more likely to become homeowners themselves; and,

*Whereas*, Homeowner opportunities depend upon partners, including homebuilders, Realtors, land developers, lenders, governments, and schools, working together; and,

*Whereas*, According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Statistics, South Dakota's homeownership rate was 68.5 percent this past calendar year; and,

*Whereas*, South Dakota, through the South Dakota Housing Development Authority, continues to provide affordable homeownership development and financing thereby increasing homeownership opportunities and the state's homeownership rate; and,

*Whereas*, More than 60,000 South Dakota families have received home loans through the South Dakota Housing Development Authority; and,

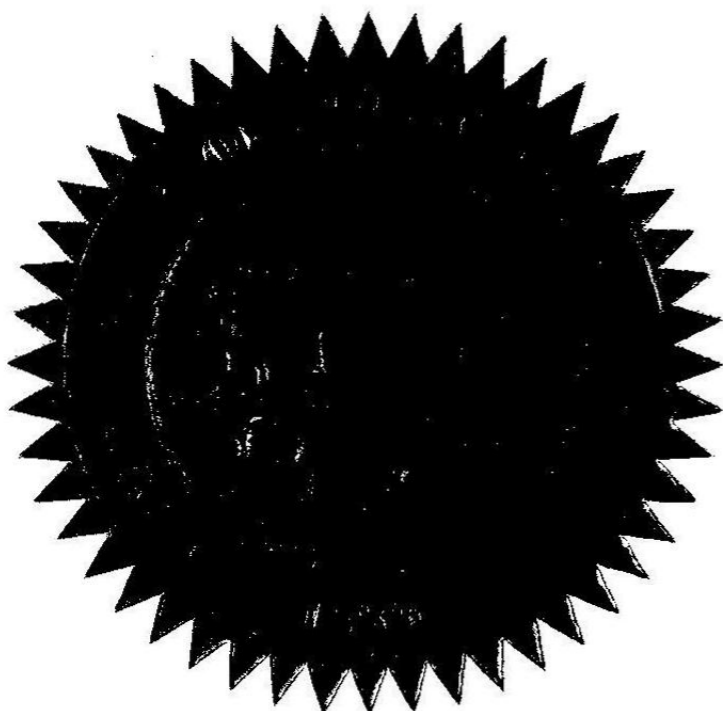
*Whereas*, South Dakota strives to continue to increase homeownership opportunities in our state by recognizing the South Dakota Housing Development Authority and its partners and challenges them to continue their efforts:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 2005 as

## *HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH*

in South Dakota.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eleventh Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Michael Rounds", written over a horizontal line.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chris Nelson", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State